

Tuesday, September 06, 2005

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing this comment on WC-05-235 to express my opposition to the provision which removes the International Morse Code requirement from all Amateur Radio Service licenses.

While I agree that provision should be made to license those who do not wish to learn the code, a *carte blanche* removal of the code from all license classes would do damage to the service in general.

The International Morse Code is still useful for the following reasons:

- 1) It is an indispensable tool in emergencies where noise conditions or equipment malfunction prevents the use of other forms of modulation.
- 2) It is one more skill that allows recognition of those who wish to become true communication experts.
- 3) It acts as a common language and culture for Amateur Radio Operators throughout the world. Even if a language barrier exists, operators can have meaningful communication through the code and associated "Q" signals.

Please do not abolish the requirement for International Morse Code proficiency from all Amateur Radio license classes. At least leave the code as a requirement for the Amateur Extra class.

Thank You,

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